



## CITY OF ABERDEEN

To the Aberdeen Community  
SUBJECT: COVID Ltr (#3)

23 March 2020

Since my initial letter of last week, the nation, state and Harford County continues seeing more reported incidents of COVID 19. The national, state and local response to the disease changes if not hourly at least daily. As of 2:00 p.m., Monday, 23 March, the primary tracking map used throughout the country, **"The Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU)"** reports 288 known COVID-19 cases in Maryland with 5 from Harford County. This figure has been growing nearly exponentially and will undoubtedly increase.

So rather than chasing numbers, let's return to the basics. The Aberdeen City Council and Staff have and will continue to do our utmost to address the safety and health concerns of our community. In that context I underscore every message issued by subject matter experts and health professional . . . remain vigilant to changing conditions, take proactive steps to avoid exposure and above all remain calm.

There are volumes of information floating around about handwashing, sanitizing, covering your cough, social distancing and other measures to prevent contact with the virus. Rather than repeating them, this letter refers you to the sites we believe are the most informative, locally useful and up-to-date. Today, Monday, 23 March, Governor Hogan unveiled a host of new programs and media platforms aimed at addressing some of the financial distress associated with the virus. The hyperlinks connect you to the sources we for guidance at City Hall. These are also being shared in all our social media forums including Facebook and the Aberdeen Advocate Enews Letter. The Aberdeen Police Department have the same links prominently outlined on their Facebook page.

For data and locations of COVID-19 cases: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html/> (click on the "US" for state by state information)

For State of Maryland information: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/> (click on Harford County for local information)

For Harford County information: <https://harfordcountyhealth.com/coronavirus/> For real time updates via the phone, you can call 211 and hit option 2.

If you are a business affected by changes from the virus, your "go to" site should be:

<https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus>

We're actively following federal, state and local directives and guidance along with near real time input from Harford County's Health Officer. We're also routinely conferring with the City Administrators of Havre-d-Grace, Belair and the Garrison Commander at Aberdeen Proving Ground. It's a team effort.

In conclusion, be mindful of yourself and others and exercise common sense. The City of Aberdeen's Point of Contact is Mr. Robert Hartsock, Risk and Safety Manager, (410) 272-1600 (ext. 210), or by email, [rhartsock@aberdeennmd.gov](mailto:rhartsock@aberdeennmd.gov). For more info on the various grants, loans and business focused packages offered through our federal and state partners, please contact Mrs. Phyllis Grover at (410) 272-1600 (x 216). Practice your social distancing and stay healthy!

Most Respectfully,



R. Robertson  
City Manager